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ABSTRACT

In his introduction to this bibliography--which is organized into sections focusing on selected general reference works, selected black periodicals, and books--the compiler notes that religion and the church have been two of the stabilizing forces in the Black community since the days of slavery. Perhaps, these two forces have been the things that have helped Black people maintain their sanity. Even though Black people have belonged largely to the Baptist and Methodist churches, many have joined and supported other religious organizations and cults. During the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s and 1960, Blacks added new denominations and cults to their membership, such as Christ's Sanctified Holy Church Colored, Fine Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas, House of God, The Pillar and Ground of Truth, House of Prayer for All People, House of the Lord, Kodesh Church of Immanuel, The Latter House of the Lord, Apostolic Faith, National David Spiritual Temple of Christ Union, United Holy Church of America, Inc. and the Nation of Island. During the Great Depression, a number of cults were formed in northern cities. The most notable of these cults is the Nation of Islam. It was thought appropriate to compile a work of this kind because it has historical significance. (Author/JM)

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INTRODUCTION

Religion and the church have been two of the stablizing forces in the Black community since the days of slavery. Perhaps, those two forces have been the things that have helped Black people maintain their sanity. Even though Black people have belonged largely to the Baptist and Methodist churches, many have joined and supported other religious organizations and cults. During the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, Blacks added new denominations and cults to their membership, such as Christ's Sanctified Holy Church Colored, Fine Baptized

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Holiness Church of God of the Americas, House of God, The Pillar and Ground of Truth, House of Prayer for All People, House of the Lord, Kodesh Church of Immanuel, The Latter House of the Lord, Apostolic Faith, National David Spiritual Temple of Christ Union, United Holy Church of America, Incorporated, and The Nation of Islam.

During the Great Depression a number of cults were formed in Northern cities: Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis. The Most notable of these cults is the Nation of Islam. This group is a peaceful and systematic one which supplies the needs and wants of multitudes in a way that baffles human understanding - in some quarters.

I thought it appropriate to compile a work of this kind because it has historical significance. Namely, the first Black Church - Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church - was established in the North in 1749. Moreover, many of the early church leadership came from the Northern cities. Also, many of the largest membership in the churches were and are in the North.

Any work of this nature will have some overlapping. Therefore, some of the books listed will not directly apply to religion in the North. Nonetheless, they still are useful because they supply background material for the study of the transformation of Blacks and their religious teaching and training in the North.

Obviously, any work of this endeavor encompassed the assistance of many people and many hours. Therefore, it would be nearly impossible to name all persons that assisted in this monumental work, however, I must express special acknowledgement to the following: The Ohio State University Library, and the secretaries and work-study students of the Department of Black Studies at The Ohio State University. Without their assistance this work would not have been completed. I take full responsibility, however, for all errors. I also welcome any corrections of errors or omissions.

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